

the giving of love and power, of semen and children. Since he has this power of real sexual restitution, the destructive impulses themselves do not in the male undergo complete repression, but commonly find fairly direct channels of expression in the real world through sublimatory activities of one sort or another. In the girl, the anxieties connected with the biting and aggressive impulses towards the mother's body are more profound and further-reaching than in the boy, primarily because they give rise to fear of her being destroyed in her own body, against which she cannot get the reassurance which the boy does from his real external penis. The girl, on the contrary, has no means of satisfying herself that her body has not, as she imagines, been injured in the inside. Indeed, what evidence she has seems to support this idea—the actual absence of the penis. Hence, tendencies to restitution are normally stronger in her. The drive towards giving back to the mother, restoring, making better, is necessarily stronger, and her fear of destructive impulses is greater and more persistent. This is probably one of the essential keys to the greater inhibition of curiosity which undoubtedly occurs in most girls, as compared with boys, and especially that inhibition of the mechanical interests, and taking things to pieces, which are so characteristic of the boy. The girl's need is to cherish and save life. Her typical lack of desire to take things to pieces, in order to see how they are made, springs from this deep emotional situation. With some girls the need to restore to the mother becomes so persistent and so acute that all their lives are spent in serving other women and children.

In the analysis of little girls, one finds this situation ex-

emplified with great clarity and vividness.
When a piece
of real or phantasied aggression has been
brought to light
by the analysis, the anxiety raised is very
often dealt with
at once by some sort of real proof of the power to
make good, to
make things better again. The child will
undertake some
piece of real construction, drawing or sewing,
or modelling,
or cleaning the room, whatever activity happens
to be closely
relevant to the particular phantasy of the
moment, in order
to prove that things *can* be made better again
—since only
by making the mother better again can the child
herself get
good or be good.

This wish of the boy or the girl to make
restitution always